Baraboo July 19 1858

Dear friend Eph!

Last saturday Mary received a short letter from you. and as she cannot answer it now. I will sit down and scribble you a line. You said in your letter that you were almost mad at us all. Do not be mad at me Eph. for I have answered your letters promptly. You know I did your first, and your last I answered very soon, and enclosed it with one from Dan. He gave the letter to Jim Gould expecting he would go directly to La Crosse instead of that he did not go, and the letter is up to Dills now. I have been so vexed about it. for I knew you would want, and expect to hear from us. I have not written since, because

we expected you home. You speak of coming after your return from your tour down river. Do not disappoint us, for if you do not come by that time, I may not see you at all before going home. I cannot tell just when I'll go, but suppose in about two months. I would give a good deal to see you tonight Eph. We all talk about you every day. I wrote you all I could think of in my last, but I cannot repeat it again - perhaps you'll get the latter sometimes. My picture cannot be sent, for it has not been taken. A very good reason for not sending I suppose you think. but it shall be sent, or given sometime.

I wrote you, or Dave did about our visit to Kingston. We have been to see Ina. and I went again about the 4th. Guess who I went with? Will tell you when you get home. I had a nice

from. and a pleasant ride.

I cannot write much tonight. for it is almost dark, and beside, I am very tired. Dave, Mary & myself have been up on sandstone bluff today, after blue berries. we hired ourselves out. and returned with empty pails. But we had a good ride. so that paid us. ——

You will be surprised to see Jimmy when you get back. he has grown so, and is such a plaything for us all. —— We are all pretty well with the exception of Dave. He has been sick several weeks. and I don't know as he'll ever be any better.

But I must stop. for my pen and ink is enough to provoke a saint to write with. So do excuse poor writing and a short letter. Hope to see you soon and hear from you on receipt of this. and with best wishes for your health & prosperity; I am your friend as ever, Bob

Do excuse poor writing & short letter. but I must write as the boat leaves in a few minutes & I want to see you very much